

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates.

Private agendas have become more important than the truth in journalism in this country. Only ten corporations own every single piece of media. News is about profits and ratings. What is really happening in this country and the world is so convoluted by greed. The true tragedy is that our freedom of speech is being stolen from us by those who can afford to make decisions about what gets coverage and what doesn't. The Telecommunications Act of 1996 destroyed diversity in radio, letting ownership of radio stations not be limited. Clear Channel and Infinity Broadcasting are the biggest, if not only owners of every radio station in this country. Playlists have become bland and monotonous; there is no straying from the playlist. The same set list can be playing in different cities at the same time. This abuse of corporate power is not only disgusting, but is also infringing on the public's First Amendment Rights. This can no longer continue.